

Information for the Inquiry Day from the [Clifton Diocese](#)

School Admissions is such a complex business that I think it is literally impossible for any LA to an admissions process that is clear and easy for parents to understand. Complex legislation and a School Admissions Code of limited use, parents having to apply to their home LA for schools both in & outside the LA, the range of different types of schools i.e. Community, VC, VA, Academies, Free, Foundation, Trust etc., the use of Supplementary forms and/or the need to provide additional evidence for some schools, the lack of a national standard application form etc. etc. all make it extremely difficult for any LA to provide clear & simple information for parents.

In view of the above, overall I think the information from Bristol LA is of a good standard.

Some suggestions for consideration would be:

- that the Reception Intake application form could be altered to make it clear that children born outside of the DOB range stated on the form may complete it if applying for delayed admission
- that the Reception Intake application form could be altered to make it clear it is for people applying for admission during the school year & not just for September admission i.e. in 2017-18 and not September 2017.
- The Coordinated Admission Scheme could give a clearer indication of how an alternative school will be determined if all of a parents preferences are refused
- The In-Year admissions web page could be clearer about the application process to be followed
- To help parents through the process the Council could consider a big publicity campaign about the need to apply coming up to the various closing dates (this could be a joint enterprise with neighbouring LAs in the area).

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